

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-4382 Filed 2-18-97; 3:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 14, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 9th Fl. Conference Room.

STATUS: closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-4383 Filed 2-18-97; 3:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 21, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 9th Fl. Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb,

Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-4384 Filed 2-18-97; 3:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 28, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 9th Fl. Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-4385 Filed 2-18-97; 3:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps: State, National, Indian Tribes, and U.S. Territories Programs

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Funds for New and Renewal Grants, Notice of Availability of 1997 Application Guidelines, and Responses to Public Comments.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) announces the availability of funds for new and renewal AmeriCorps program grants in the approximate amounts of: (1) \$162 million for AmeriCorps State program grants (CFDA #94.003); (2) \$40 million for AmeriCorps National program grants (CFDA #94.004); and (3) \$5 million for AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories program grants (CFDA #94.004). The application forms and guidelines for completing these applications are contained in the (1) "1997 AmeriCorps Guidelines and Instructions for State Commissions", (2) the "AmeriCorps National 1997 Application Guidelines", and (3) the "1997 AmeriCorps Application Guidelines for Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories" respectively.

The second section of this notice addresses comments submitted in response to the Corporation notice published in the Federal Register on August 6, 1996, which described proposed changes to Corporation grant-making guidelines, policies, and priorities for 1997, and invited comments with regard to its AmeriCorps State, National, Indian Tribes, and U.S. Territories programs. The changes proposed for the Fiscal Year 1997 grant cycle were non-regulatory in nature. In response to this notice, the Corporation received comments from eleven organizations.

DATES: All AmeriCorps State program applications must be received by 3:30 p.m. (E.S.T.), April 15, 1997. Although AmeriCorps State program applications must be received at the Corporation by that date, applicants seeking AmeriCorps funds from State Commissions should contact their respective State Commissions since individual State Commissions set their

own deadlines. Applicants for new AmeriCorps National grants must be received by 3:30 p.m. (E.S.T.), April 1, 1997. Notice regarding the renewal application deadline for AmeriCorps National grants will be provided to existing grantees at a later date. All AmeriCorps Indian Tribe and U.S. Territory applications must be received by 3:30 p.m. (E.S.T.), April 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: All applications should be submitted to the Corporation for National Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Box AS (for AmeriCorps States), Box ACD (for AmeriCorps National), Box ITT (for AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories), Washington, D.C. 20525. Facsimiles will not be accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the AmeriCorps State application process should be directed to the State Commission offices. Copies of the "AmeriCorps National 1997 Application Guidelines" and "1997 AmeriCorps Application Guidelines for Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories" should be requested by calling (202) 606-5000, extension 260. If potential applicants have questions about the AmeriCorps National and AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories application guidelines or the application process, they should contact the Corporation for National Service, AmeriCorps Direct, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20525. Phone: (202) 606-5000, extension 125. Organizations interested in applying for the AmeriCorps National program funds may participate in conference calls on February 27, 1997, and March 7, 1997, during which Corporation staff will provide technical assistance to potential applicants. Both calls will commence at 10 AM and end at 12 PM (E.S.T.). To register for these calls, please contact Baqiya Adam at (202) 606-5000, extension 549. The Corporation staff will also conduct conference calls to provide technical assistance to potential applicants seeking AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories program funds on March 3, 1997, and March 10, 1997. All calls will commence at 2 pm (E.S.T.). To register for these calls, please contact Rosa Harrison at (202)-606-5000, extension 433.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Corporation's requirements for AmeriCorps programs are set forth in the Corporation's authorizing statute (42 U.S.C. section 12501 *et seq.*), its implementing regulations (45 CFR Part 2500 *et seq.*), and grant application guidelines. In addition to being thoroughly familiar with the statute and its implementing regulations,

prospective applicants should read the application carefully because, in some cases, more specific information is provided there.

I. AmeriCorps Program Fund

Availability

AmeriCorps engages thousands of Americans on a full and part-time basis to help communities address their toughest challenges while earning support for college, graduate school, or job training.

A. AmeriCorps State

Approximately \$74.5 million in program funds are available for new and renewal grants to States under State allotments, and approximately \$87.5 million in program funds are available to States for new and renewal grants on a competitive basis.

The Corporation is committed to supporting only high-quality AmeriCorps programs, and State allotments are not entitlements.

(1) Eligible applicants.

States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, through a Corporation-approved State Commission or Alternative Administrative Entity (AAE), are eligible to submit a State application to the Corporation for funds available through the AmeriCorps State program.

(2) Estimated amount and quantity of awards.

The following chart details the amount of funding for which each State may apply. The chart also lists the number of new program applications that each State may submit for funding on a competitive basis.

| State | Formula allotment | Number of allowable competitive submissions |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Alabama | \$1,142,224 | 8 |
| Alaska | 450,000 | 5 |
| Arizona | 1,132,813 | 8 |
| Arkansas | 667,066 | 7 |
| California | 8,483,903 | 29 |
| Colorado | 1,006,221 | 8 |
| Connecticut | 879,476 | 7 |
| Delaware | 450,000 | 6 |
| District of Columbia | 450,000 | 5 |
| Florida | 3,804,449 | 16 |
| Georgia | 1,933,942 | 10 |
| Hawaii | 450,000 | 6 |
| Idaho | 450,000 | 6 |
| Illinois | 3,177,168 | 14 |
| Indiana | 1,558,639 | 9 |
| Iowa | 763,213 | 7 |
| Kansas | 688,970 | 7 |
| Kentucky | 1,036,739 | 8 |
| Louisiana | 1,166,221 | 8 |
| Maine | 450,000 | 6 |
| Maryland | 1,354,248 | 9 |
| Massachusetts .. | 1,631,174 | 9 |

| State | Formula allotment | Number of allowable competitive submissions |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Michigan | 2,564,671 | 12 |
| Minnesota | 1,237,987 | 8 |
| Mississippi | 724,399 | 7 |
| Missouri | 1,429,739 | 9 |
| Montana | 450,000 | 6 |
| Nebraska | 450,000 | 6 |
| Nevada | 450,000 | 6 |
| New Hampshire | 450,000 | 6 |
| New Jersey | 2,133,870 | 11 |
| New Mexico | 452,648 | 6 |
| New York | 4,870,809 | 19 |
| North Carolina .. | 1,932,399 | 11 |
| North Dakota | 450,000 | 0 |
| Ohio | 2,994,693 | 13 |
| Oklahoma | 880,289 | 7 |
| Oregon | 843,467 | 7 |
| Pennsylvania | 3,242,136 | 14 |
| Puerto Rico (1995) | 1,008,515 | 8 |
| Rhode Island | 450,000 | 6 |
| South Carolina .. | 986,535 | 8 |
| South Dakota | 450,000 | 0 |
| Tennessee | 1,411,618 | 9 |
| Texas | 5,028,705 | 19 |
| Utah | 524,090 | 6 |
| Vermont | 450,000 | 5 |
| Virginia | 1,777,493 | 10 |
| Washington | 1,458,588 | 9 |
| West Virginia | 490,984 | 6 |
| Wisconsin | 1,375,850 | 9 |
| Wyoming | 450,000 | 5 |
| Total | 74,545,951 | 446 |

B. AmeriCorps National

Approximately \$40 million is available for new and renewal grants through the AmeriCorps National program competition.

(1) Eligible applicants.

National nonprofit organizations, Indian Tribes, public or private nonprofit organizations (including labor organizations), subdivisions of states, and institutions of higher education are eligible to apply for AmeriCorps National program funds. For the purpose of this grant process, a national nonprofit organization is any nonprofit organization whose mission, membership, activities, or constituencies are national in scope. However, an organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4), that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply, serve as a host site for Member placements, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program.

Eligible applicants that propose programs in more than one State are encouraged to seek funding directly from the Corporation. These applicants may operate programs directly or provide subgrants to local chapters or affiliates. The Corporation strongly

encourages applicants that propose programs in a single State to apply to that State's Commission on National and Community Service.

(2) Estimated amount and quantity of awards.

The Corporation expects to make fewer than forty (40) awards for new AmeriCorps National operating programs in Fiscal Year 1997 grant cycle. The grant size will vary by circumstance, need, and program model. The Corporation anticipates that it will not be able to fund AmeriCorps National programs at the same level as it has in the past because of a congressionally-imposed cap and a lack of available carryover funds. For this reason, grantees that have previously received AmeriCorps funding should consider significantly reducing the amount of requested support.

C. AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories

Approximately \$2.5 million is available for new and renewal AmeriCorps Indian Tribe program grants, and approximately \$2.5 million is available for new and renewal AmeriCorps U.S. Territories program grants under a population-based formula.

(1) Eligible applicants.

Eligible applicants include Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories. For the purposes of this grant program an Indian Tribe is an: (a) Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Native village, as defined in 43 U.S.C. section 1602(c), whether organized traditionally or pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the "Indian Reorganization Act," 26 U.S.C. section 1461 *et seq.*); (b) any Regional Corporation or Village Corporation, as defined in 43 U.S.C. section 1602 (g) or (j), respectively, that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States under Federal law to Indians because of their status as Indians; and (c) any tribal organization controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by an entity described in (a) or (b) of this paragraph. For the purposes of this grant program, U.S. Territories are (a) American Samoa, (b) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, (c) Guam, and (d) the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(2) Estimated amount and quantity of awards.

Eligible applicants may apply for operating funds to establish AmeriCorps programs. The Corporation expects to make fewer than ten (10) AmeriCorps Indian Tribe program grants, and fewer than ten (10) AmeriCorps U.S.

Territories program grants. The average award under each program will be under \$300,000.

II. Education Awards

On September 4, 1996, the Corporation published a *Notice of availability of education awards* that describes the AmeriCorps Education Award program. Applicants for AmeriCorps State, National, and Tribes and U.S. Territories program grants are advised that instead of applying through the AmeriCorps Education Award program, they may include in their AmeriCorps State, National, or Tribes and U.S. Territories applications a request for positions for participants who receive only education awards from the Corporation. AmeriCorps State, National, or Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories programs that include these positions are subject to all of the requirements that apply to AmeriCorps State, National, or Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories programs.

III. Professional Corps

The Corporation particularly invites applications for professional corps programs. A professional corps program is defined in 42 U.S.C. section 12572(a)(8). These programs must be sponsored by public or private nonprofit employers who agree to pay 100 percent of AmeriCorps Members' salaries and benefits (excluding the national service education award which is provided by the Corporation). Members' salaries may exceed the maximum living allowance in other national service programs.

IV. 16-Year-Old AmeriCorps Participants

In general, an individual must be at least 17 years of age at the time he or she begins the term of service in order to be eligible for receipt of an education award. However, certain 16-year-olds may enroll as AmeriCorps participants. Applicants who have an interest in enrolling 16-year-olds are advised that the participant must be an "out of school youth" as defined in 42 U.S.C. section 12511(16) and serve in one of two types of youth corps programs described in the authorizing statute. (See 42 U.S.C. section 12572(a)(2) and (a)(9)).

V. Responses to Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Corporation Grant Making Guidelines

A. Renewals, Re-competition and New Applications 1997 Issue Area Priorities

The Corporation received one comment requesting that specific language be added to permit existing or former operating sites of AmeriCorps

National grantees to apply for new grant funds through State Commissions while continuing their contractual relationship for training and technical assistance with the AmeriCorps National grantee organization. The Corporation decided not to add the language because any grantee or subgrantee can currently contract with any other national, State or local organization for technical assistance. Therefore, we do not need to specifically state this for operating sites or subgrantees of AmeriCorps National grantees only.

B. 1997 Priorities

The Corporation received several comments on the Corporation's new FY97 focus on children and youth within the four issue areas of educational, public safety, environmental and other human needs. The comments were divided equally between those favoring the new priorities and those suggesting that the priorities needed some clarification and should not be focused so narrowly. The Corporation has decided to maintain its focus on children and youth for the 1997 priorities. However, clarifying language was added to recognize that some high quality programs have different expertise and would dilute their effectiveness if they redesign their programs to focus on children and youth. Those programs are encouraged to apply if they are high quality programs and can demonstrate compelling needs. Applicants who received funding from the Corporation for the first time in 1995 or 1996 are considered renewals and therefore, may continue to address areas covered by the 1995 or 1996 priorities and need not change their focus to meet the Corporation's new priority focus on children and youth.

C. Summer Programs

The Corporation received several comments requesting some clarification on summer programs and a recommendation that the applicants be encouraged to apply for summer programs that are operated as components of AmeriCorps programs, rather than as free-standing programs. The Corporation added clarifying language to this section of the grant application guidelines indicating that the Corporation encourages, but does not require, applicants to operate summer programs as a component of their year-round AmeriCorps programs and to ensure that a summer component is consistent with the overall mission of the applying organization and its AmeriCorps programs.

D. State Coordination with AmeriCorps National Applicants

The Corporation received four comments about the grant application guideline language related to coordination between State Commissions and AmeriCorps National applicants. The comments were equally divided between concurrence with the language and requests for changes. Based on the comments received, the Corporation decided not to change the requirements for coordination and to continue such requirements. Additional language was added to the grant application guidelines describing the Corporation's expectations of AmeriCorps National applicants and of State Commissions with regard to better coordination between the two.

E. Issue Area Specialization

The Corporation received three comments suggesting that limiting programs to one issue area may restrict their ability to raise match funds and fulfill program objectives. The Corporation's experience is that when programs try to meet many needs at once, it is more difficult to demonstrate impact and fulfill program objectives. Therefore, the Corporation will continue to encourage programs to focus their efforts on one issue area. The grant application guidelines do recognize that certain types of programs (e.g., volunteer generator models or programs operating in rural areas) may not be able to focus on single issues. Programmatic needs or designs that lead an applicant to focus on multi-issues will be taken into consideration during the grant application review and selection processes.

F. Program Focus and Service Ethic

Several responders suggested that language in the grant application guidelines which indicates that the Corporation will not fund programs whose primary focus is job training should be softened. However, given the requirements in the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended, and its implementing regulations, the emphasis on imparting the service ethic and providing service to communities is appropriate. The Corporation did change the word "primary" to "major" to clarify the Corporation's intent to continue to support programs that do assist participants in job development activities, so long as it is not the major focus of the program.

G. Living Allowance

Four responders recommended that the Corporation continue its current

flexibility concerning the amount of living allowances provided to AmeriCorps members. This recommendation suggests a misunderstanding of the Corporation's intent. The current language does not require programs to pay the lowest living allowance. It only encourages it. The Corporation has emphasized this in the final grant application guidelines, but continues to encourage programs to offer the minimum statutorily permitted living allowances—not more than the average annual subsistence allowance provided to VISTAs.

H. Corporation Cost per Member

All responders addressed this issue in their recommendations. Some indicated that lowering the allowable cost per Member would have a negative impact on program quality and the Corporation should take varying local conditions and program designs into account and allow for some flexibility. Others felt the reduction in Member costs is within reason, but wanted some clarification concerning what was included in the calculation.

The Corporation cannot increase the limit on the Corporation share of the cost per Member, but it does provide flexibility to applicants by allowing them to meet the target as an average across all programs within the application rather than as an absolute number for each program. For example, a single State must meet the Corporation's required maximum cost per member as its average cost per member in that State. In addition, the Corporation only limits the cost per member of the Corporation share. Programs are free to have a higher cost per member so long as it comes from a funding source other than the Corporation. The Corporation also delineated in the grant application guidelines all items included in the calculation of cost per Member.

I. Timelines

Only one responder requested that the deadlines for grant applications be extended. Other responders expressed appreciation that the Corporation is providing more time between grant application deadlines and actual program start-up. One responder asked that the grant application deadlines remain the same, but that the Corporation make final decisions at least two months before programs are expected to begin.

The Corporation cannot change the grant application deadlines and still meet a reasonable timeline for final decisions. Therefore, the grant application deadlines will remain as

published in the Federal Register and reflected in this notice. Currently, the Corporation does not notify potential grantees of decisions at least two months before programs are expected to begin. However, the actual grant award letters may not reach the grantee two months ahead of start dates.

J. Application Evaluation and Selection of New Programs

The Corporation received several comments concerning the "ability to monitor" section of the review criteria. Several felt that the Corporation needed to reexamine its assessment that individual placements are "hard to monitor" and suggested that the "ability to monitor" criterion be dropped from the application review criteria. In addition, one responder recommended that the Corporation base its peer review criteria on results rather than systems.

The Corporation considered these comments and their bases and decided not to eliminate the "ability to monitor" criterion, and to add language in the grant application guidelines asking applicants with individual placements to describe what they will do to ensure that they would be able to monitor their sites effectively despite their geographically-dispersed locations.

The Corporation has not changed its overall review criteria because those criteria do place a heavy emphasis on results. Currently, the Corporation's review criteria base 65 percent of the evaluation on results related to getting things done, strengthening communities and developing Members, and the ability of the program to evaluate those results.

K. Miscellaneous

The Corporation also received other comments requesting some clarification on how the selection criteria will be applied and whether or not organizations that have already received funding will be eligible to apply. Additional language was added to indicate that organizations that have already received three years of funding from the Corporation are eligible to apply but will be competed as new applicants rather than renewal applicants. The Corporation also added language that distinguishes the Corporation's request for individual programs to focus on fewer priority areas from the Corporation's need to ensure that we select programs that meet priorities in all four issue areas within the overall group of selected programs. The language states that, while we encourage individual programs to focus on an issue area, the Corporation will ensure that it has

diversity among priorities across the programs that it funds.

Dated: February 14, 1997.

Barry W. Stevens,

Acting General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service.

[FR Doc. 97-4192 Filed 2-19-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Army Education Advisory Committee

AGENCY: U.S. Army War College.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following committee meeting:

Name of Committee: U.S. Army War College Subcommittee of the Army Education Advisory Committee.

Date of Meeting: April 7, 8, and 9, 1997.

Place: Root Hall, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Time: 8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Proposed Agenda: Receive information briefings, view facilities, observe classes, conduct discussions with faculty and students, and provide guidance concerning accreditation and areas for improvement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colonel Terry J. Young, Box 118, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013 or phone (717) 245-3907.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the committee after receiving advance approval for participation. To request advance approval or obtain further information, contact Colonel Terry J. Young at the above address or phone number.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-4171 Filed 2-19-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

CGSC Advisory Committee

AGENCY: U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following committee meeting: